

REMARKS

This Amendment is intended to advance the prosecution in view of the final Office Action dated March 10, 2006. Applicants respectfully request favorable reconsideration of this application, as amended.

By this Amendment, and without acceding to the outstanding rejections, the subject matter of Claim 4 (now cancelled) has been incorporated into each of independent Claims 1, 9, and 13. These amendments are intended to emphasize the presence of ions, which act to improve the film quality of a deposited insulator film.

In the final Office Action, each of the independent claims was rejected as being anticipated by Ohmi et al. (Ohmi). However, Applicants respectfully submit that the claimed invention is neither anticipated by nor obvious in view of Ohmi.

Initially, Applicants respectfully observe that Ohmi does not disclose or suggest the improvement of film quality by the action of ions in plasma. Ohmi merely discloses the atomic state oxygen O* (radical). But, as described at page 32, lines 6-10 of the specification, for example, the present inventors found that the oxygen radical cannot sufficiently improve the film quality.

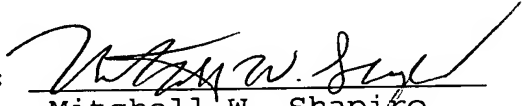
Ohmi thus fails to teach or suggest Applicants' present invention. Nor do the teachings of Kim, cited with respect to dependent Claims 2-8, overcome the deficiency of Ohmi with respect to the independent claims.

Accordingly, it is respectfully urged that the outstanding rejections be withdrawn and that this application now be passed to issue.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge to Deposit Account No. 50-1165 any fees under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16 and 1.17 that may be required by this paper and to credit any overpayment to that Account. If any extension of time is required in connection with the filing of this paper and has not been separately requested, such extension is hereby requested.

Respectfully submitted,

By:


Mitchell W. Shapiro
Reg. No. 31,568

Miles & Stockbridge, P.C.
1751 Pinnacle Drive
Suite 500
McLean, Virginia 22102-3833
(703) 903-9000

October 10, 2006